

THE LABOUR ORGANISER

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Review of the Month

THE registration period is now in full blast. There are but a few weeks remaining in which this work must be accomplished. What is your Party doing. We make no apology for again referring to this matter, for unfortunately so much that could be done is left undone in scores of constituencies, and by scores of local Labour Parties and Committees. Our neglect is the other side's opportunity, and we have no right to complain against a weighted or incomplete register if simple precautions are not taken. The Labour Party suffers more than the others from loss of registration due to removals, and from the lack of knowledge, or even of interest, in this matter, on the part of its supporters. It is perfectly true that Tory lodgers will themselves understand and look after the little detail needed, but Labour supporters apparently never consider their citizen rights until it is time to exercise them. It is sheer rubbish to neglect registration just because a General Election is not in sight. What constituency can afford to gamble on its chance of having no by-election? And what Party can afford to neglect its prospects in Local Government Elections? So let us make use of these summer nights for registration work.

Our article in last month's issue on the problems of the Mining Areas, has attracted some notice. In one group of mining constituencies active efforts have been under consideration for some time to cope with the problems outlined. In this area a special Committee, representative of a number of mining constituencies, has held several sittings to consider the common problem, and as a result two Regional

Conferences were held, together with a number of demonstrations. The object of these gatherings was twofold, i.e., the Conferences were to lay the organisational problems before the delegates, and to seek their co-operation in the solution of them, while the demonstrations were designed to arouse interest, remove apathy and serve educational and propaganda purposes. The time has certainly arrived when an effort is needed to turn to more material advantages the great mass vote to be found in the mining areas. In the consideration of any figures relating to Labour's vote at the last General Election, and the possibilities of individual membership therefrom, it seems that one must always bear in mind that there are great areas accounting for a large proportion of the votes, where it is singularly difficult to get either membership or effective political organisation. And further, there often exists in such areas a big non-Unionism, which votes Labour, but is too listless or disheartened to pay into a Trades Union. The problems are not easy of solution.

Well done, Montrose! And now we want to say "Well done, Wednesday." But the Montrose result is worth looking at a second time in order to convince ourselves of the work that lies ahead, before we can win, perhaps Wednesday, and certainly many other seats, in the country. The lesson of Montrose is *not* that which has been drawn by so many Labour papers, for if the tide has turned it is certainly very slow in coming in. Labour's poll in Montrose Burghs in 1929 was 9,381. The poll in June, 1932, was 7,030. It is true only a little over one thousand votes separated us from victory, and that a Scottish Nationalist detached 1,996—

also that Labour increased its October figure by 1,893 votes. But this merely emphasises what we said about Dumbarton. There is a tremendous work of education and propaganda waiting to be done. The return to sanity is not yet, and fortune has favoured the food taxers in that the evils of their policy have hardly yet had effect. We shall shout when a real victory comes along, and only then if we feel that the victory has been gained by a definite strengthening of our forces, and an increase in the number of Socialists. So play up, Wednesday!

We are glad to have some grounds for believing that the possibilities of the Labour Party bringing forward rules this year for the formation of County Federations are somewhat remote. The fact is that while Federations have a definite and desirable function to perform, some greater experience of their scope and functioning is necessary before a standard can be laid down for the whole country. Circumstances in different counties differ widely, and conditions in Lancashire are not to be compared with conditions in Somerset. Nor do we believe that similar Federation rules would work satisfactorily in both places. The inclusion of County Boroughs is also a thorny consideration. In some Counties the County Borough is almost a necessity, but admit the principle of their inclusion and one is up against the fact that there are Counties where the Boroughs outnumber the County Divisions. The primary object of Federations is to forward co-operation amongst County Divisions, and the inclusion of these Boroughs would certainly hamper this end. Unfortunately, also, there are several Counties in which Federations have been formed, and where so little interest in their doings has been evidenced that they are either dead or

dying. We hardly think that "recognition" or a set of Party rules would have altered this circumstance, and it seems, therefore, that before the Party puts forward rules it should be assured that Federations are desired; and that we do not add an additional organisation to our present complications, unless assured that they will work. On the other hand, consultation between County Divisions regarding County Council Elections, and on County Council policy is desirable in every County.

We should like our readers' opinions regarding recent Party pamphlets—their effectiveness and get-up. At almost every Conference for years past, a criticism of Party publications has been a hardy annual. Quite recently a deputation from London Labour Agents was received at the Head Office of the Party, and the non-effectiveness of Headquarters' literature was one of the points of complaint. Now, what about it? The Party has recently issued a series of really effective and well got-up pamphlets. Who is selling them? There should be a tremendous sale for Fred Henderson's "Socialist Goal" and Suthers' "Simple Simon," and we feel bound to say it is now up to the grumblers to show that there was some substance in their complaints, and that they can sell really effective literature. Complaints in the past have not been confined to one area, or to agents, and we should like to see some evidence of the appreciation which the Movement feels now that the pungent fighting pamphlet so long asked for is available in attractive form. The coming Annual Conference of the Party is to be asked to do something about the sale of Party literature and new terms of supply are being offered to Local Parties.

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Sack the Economy Committee

A NEW slogan for the Labour Movement—"Sack the Economy Committee"! And we are serious about it.

The Economy Committee of the Labour Party ought now to be sacked, not, we confess, on merit, but on principle; and not because economy is of itself a bad thing if it just means wise spending, but because "Economy" becomes in these days a complex. And the economy complex is fundamentally opposed to Socialist conceptions of life; and more particularly to the present needs of our Movement.

The Party's Economy Committee has had an exceptionally difficult task to perform. In the first place theirs was not the first attempt to economise in Party expenditure. The process had been going on for a number of years, even to the extent of cheese-paring in some directions. In these places the Economy Committee found no scope at all for their work. And though we now want to sack the Economy Committee, it is not because we do not appreciate the way they have set about their work, or the creditable way in which they have discharged a disagreeable task.

But Economy as a Party's paramount endeavour is bad for the Party. To-day we note a tendency to regard every idea or activity invoking expense as a matter for the consideration first of all of the Economy Committee. "Economy," therefore, is beginning to brood as a nightmare over every effort and every enterprise. How can initiative develop and the Party progress in this atmosphere?

No, "Economy" must go, and we earnestly hope that the forthcoming Annual Conference will be the last for some years at which Party finances will need serious examination, and that on this occasion the Movement will make up its mind that a period of spending is now necessary, and that it will provide the money for this purpose.

How? Perhaps the Trades Unions will rise to the occasion. Perhaps not. But the question has seriously to be faced whether or no the Party is to look solely to affiliation fees for its income in the future. We consider that an annual special effort is worth trying, and that if properly officered

anything from seven to ten thousand pounds could be raised in this way. There are only two other directions in which an increase in Party income is to be secured, and that is by an increase in the national affiliation fee to sixpence per head, or by an extraordinary increase in the membership of Local Labour Parties.

As long ago as 1920 the Conference of the National Association of Labour Agents expressed its belief in a national affiliation fee of sixpence per member. Quite recently, we have received correspondence urging this reform. But we believe the Party has found it easier to get the last increase from local Labour Parties than to get it from the Trades Unions, and before an increase in affiliation fees is again thought of, many of the Unions will require to radically overhaul their political funds, and probably to increase their members' contributions to same. This is a big task, but it is time the Trades Unions understood that their efforts for political purposes are altogether insufficient for present need. The Trades Unions must bring themselves up-to-date. The contributions which their members pay for political purposes is altogether out of proportion to the importance of political action in relation to industrial action in the present times. Anyway, until the Unions have tackled the questions involved, it would be idle for the Labour Party to increase its fees.

There remains the question of individual membership, and it is in this direction that the Party must look for the next two or three years for any substantial increase in its permanent income. But will the Labour Party Annual Conference be in earnest in this matter? How many of the delegates are not individual members themselves?

During the present year much ink has been spilled and eloquence let off in the localities regarding efforts to increase local membership. But so far, hardly any encouragement has been given by the Trades Unions to their members to become individual members of the Party, or to link up with a nation-wide effort to convert our vote into membership.

Some Trades Unions, to their credit, have boosted the matter in their

journals, but taken as a whole the great Trades Union Movement is really less alive to the importance of helping the Labour Party by membership than are the local Labour Parties to the importance of enrolling people in the Unions. We, therefore, look to the Annual Conference for this matter to be rubbed home, and for the delegates thereto, on whom the responsibility rests, to undertake an active propaganda within their organisations to assist in this matter.

If the Annual Conference tackles the finances of the Party as it ought to do, a tremendous united effort is possible to restore the income of the Party to the figure at which it formerly stood. The Party's full strength has never yet been harnessed to this task.

CORRESPONDENCE

Shall we Insure our Members?

To the Editor.

Sir,

I read with interest the letter of Mr. A. Rose, of Southampton, in regard to the insurance of members. This question has been formulating in my mind for three or four years now, for I believe in the near future there will be a big drop in individual membership if something is not done to attract and retain them. We shall have to place before our individual members an attractive scheme on efficient business lines so that their membership will be retained.

With that end in view I am firmly of the opinion that the Insurance Scheme will be the means of retaining our present membership and building up a much larger one, besides the financial benefits to be accrued from same.

In my mind, in commencing this business you will approach the members on optional lines, submitting to them that for another id. they can be insured for £5, and for twopence £10, payable at death. The penny individual membership fee could be clear, the collectors' fees coming from the insurance fee. You would, of course, need two separate funds. Office efficiency will be necessary, a membership enrolment card must first of all be filled in by the member stating that they are willing to be members of the Party and desire to be insured. It will then be forwarded by the collector to the Central Office of the local Labour Party, the card being filed in its respective place in a Filing

Cabinet and the National Labour Party contribution card forwarded to the member. In time there will be fewer collectors: say one for each Ward, but on a full time basis, and as an incentive to collectors to obtain new members id. would be allowed to him for every new member obtained after they had paid say 6 weeks. Lapsed members would, of course benefit the Party.

I have gone into this scheme thoroughly and am quite prepared to submit how the scheme would work, book-keeping, etc., in fact the scheme would be so easy to carry out that any agent would be able to carry on without any assistance.

Mr. Rose states that insurance schemes would be difficult to drop when once started. That is what is required, for he will agree to-day that individual membership is easily dropped and in fact you have a difficulty in getting them back. A large percentage of members wanting something for their penny.

This scheme is well worth considering by constituency parties believing that it will be of financial benefit besides increasing their membership.

Yours, etc.,

A. TWEEDALE,

Asst. Secretary & Agent.

Oldham.

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Congratulations to Miss Mary Sutherland, the newly-appointed Chief Woman Officer of the Labour Party, who has now commenced her duties at the Head Office of the Party.

Miss Sutherland succeeded Mrs. Agnes Hardie as the Woman Organiser for Scotland immediately after the General Election of 1923. An appreciation and recital of her many services to the Movement have appeared in several journals

The appointment just mentioned makes the fourth vacancy now open on the National Organising Staff of the Labour Party. It is probable that before our next issue these vacant posts will be filled. The vacancies are in Scotland (2), North-East District and in Wales.

On June 30th Mr. S. Hague, J.P., President of the National Union of Labour Organisers and Election Agents, completed his period of service with the Bilston Division and "retired."

The occasion was suitably acknowledged by the Bilston Labour Party, but we suspect that Sam Hague is not the man to take retirement quietly. Indeed at this moment he is in the front of the fight in the Wednesbury By-election.

Mr. F. Kettle, who is relinquishing his agency at Ashton-under-Lyne, has been appointed to the vacant agency at Westhoughton.

The Forest of Dean Division, where Mr. Philips Price was recently selected, is to have a full-time agent Mr. Charles Luker, who has been for many years the part-time agent in this Division, is practically assured of promotion.

Our readers will be glad to hear that Mr. W. Withey, of Leeds, has now recovered from his serious illness, and is

back at work. We congratulate both Mr. and Mrs. Withey on their recoveries.

After six months' silence the "Daily Express" has ventured to again publish its circulation figures. The sales on June 30 were 1,687,628, an increase of 34,383 daily over the December return.

Compare these figures with the "Daily Herald's" daily sale of 1,565,000, an increase of 125,000—344,000 taking the twelve months. There can only be one end to this race.

Mr. W. A. Spofforth, late Labour Agent at Westhoughton, has been expelled from the National Union of Labour Organisers and Election Agents, on his acceptance of a post with Mr. MacDonald's "Party"

The Co-operative Party and the National Union of Labour Organisers and Election Agents have been in negotiation regarding the setting up of an Adjustments Board similar to that which has successfully operated in the Labour Party for many years.

The West Birmingham Labour Party have recently commenced the issue of a duplicated publication known as "News and Notions." The duplicated work is exceedingly well done, and the published matter is of equal high order.

The Peterborough D.L.P. have commenced the publication of the "Peterborough and Northants Clarion," a monthly four-page sheet priced at one penny. It is quarto size, and there are many Parties who could issue a sheet of this size instead of waiting for a more ambitious, and, perhaps, less effective publication.

The Workers' Travel Association announce appreciable reductions in the price of holidays abroad operating to the end of August.

A Party booklet entitled "Party Organisation," is now in the press. We were privileged to see an early draft of this publication, and the same will certainly prove an aid to organisers. The booklet is full of information and hints.

We gather that it is proposed to supply a copy of the booklet to the dele-

(Concluded on page 103.)

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gates attending the series of organisational conferences now being arranged to cover the country in the autumn.

The big push to sell and distribute Party literature has commenced. At the Annual Conference the National E.C. will recommend an alteration of rule which will provide for Literature Secretaries being definitely appointed by every Local Party.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

"Simple Simon — the Socialist Scoundrel." By R. B. Suthers. Price twopence—The Labour Party.

Since the days of Elihu's talks, in the early days of Socialist propaganda, there has been nothing quite like R. B. Suthers's latest pamphlet. Humour and argument effectively combine. The pamphlet is got up in the Labour Party's latest attractive style, and should have a great sale.

"The Socialist Goal." By Fred Henderson. Price twopence — The Labour Party.

Uniform with the above, Fred Henderson's latest case for Socialism is contained in twenty pages of simple readable matter. The issue of general propaganda pamphlets of this character by the Labour Party denotes a sharpening of its weapons, and a determination not to leave the job of propounding the Socialist faith to others. This pamphlet should become a standard

"The World Muddle." By W. N. Ewer and Francis Williams. Price twopence—The Labour Party.

This pamphlet is also uniform with the above, and it is important for present sale. In simple language the principal causes for the present international muddle are analysed by the authors. 'Local Labour Parties ought to lose no time in ordering supplies and pushing a sale.

"The Labour Speech and How to Make it." By Fred Montague. Price one penny—The Labour Party.

This pamphlet is uniform in get-up with the above, but it contains less pages. The pamphlet is a useful guide for the rank and file, and its sale should be pushed among the Ward Committees and individual members. How we could wish it were possible to make all the above pamphlets sell at the nimble penny.

"What the Trades Councils are doing." Price fivepence—Trades Union Congress.

This pamphlet is a report of the eighth Annual Conference of Trades Councils held on May 28th under the auspices of the T.U.C. We find it difficult to understand both the price and the title. Certainly Local Labour Parties undertake practically all the activities duplicated by Trades Councils, and discussed at this Conference—and we don't charge fivepence to tell you about it.

"Tariffs and World Trade." Price sixpence—Trades Union Congress.

The report of the Economy Committee of the T.U.C. on fiscal policy. The pamphlet is of importance as a contemporary pronouncement, and the report having been approved by the General Council of the T.U.C., it may be read as an official policy. Our readers are advised to study the conclusions, but we opine that our policy at the next General Election will be based on later world events, and that by that time new aspects of the economic situation will have developed.

"The I.L.P. says 'No'." By F. W. Jowett. Price one penny—I.L.P. Publications Department.

But we thought all the potter was because the Parliamentary Committee and the National E.C. of the Labour Party had said "No"! This pamphlet unconsciously discloses the inconsistency of I.L.P. affiliation with I.L.P. policy and tactics, but the fault for that does not lie with the Labour Party. It would be as well for our readers to get this pamphlet and note how the issue between the two bodies is being widened.

REGISTRATION.

Last Day for Claims and Objections.

Under date 12th July the Home Office has issued a circular to Registration officers drawing attention to the fact that the statutory last day for notice of objections to electors' lists falls on Sunday, 31st July, and the last day for claims to be registered falls on Sunday 7th August.

The Home Office indicate, as they did in 1927, that in both cases documents delivered on the Sunday should be accepted. The Home Office also advise Registration Officers that they should accept any objections received by post on the 1st August, or any claims received not later than first post on 8th August.

THE GREAT UNPAID.

To the Editor.

Sir,

At the present time renewed interest is being taken in the constitution of the benches which administer justice in petty sessions. As one who for over ten years has devoted a considerable amount of time to this work in a London Petty Sessional Division, I am writing this article for the purpose of dealing with the subject from an informative point of view rather than from a controversial one.

There is no fixed number of Justices for any of the sixteen London Petty Sessional Divisions. At the present time the largest has over one hundred and the smallest less than twenty, but there is nothing to prevent these numbers being doubled should occasion require. Additional Justices are appointed whenever the business required to be done in any division becomes difficult of accomplishment by reason of failure to secure the attendance of sufficient Justices. There is no penalty attaching to non-attendance even when continued over a number of years, and the death of a Justice does not of itself require that another shall be appointed in his place.

As the appointment is for life, the infirmity of aged Justices always reduces the effective strength of a bench to one that is much below its numerical strength. Benches are also hampered by the inclusion of Justices who can only attend occasionally owing to a change of circumstances since their appointment, and by others who appear to have accepted the position only because of the social distinction of holding for life precedence of rank immediately below that of a knight bachelor. Before a Justice is appointed very considerable enquiries are made as to his character and past history and also as to his fitness to hold a judicial position. And having passed this test he himself is asked as to his readiness to undertake the duties and as to his being both able and willing to devote the necessary time, all of which, after his appointment, simply become matters of honour as to fulfilment.

The work of a J.P. in London slightly varies in the different divisions but adult criminal cases are all dealt with by the twenty-seven stipendiary magistrates (who are all of them also county Justices attached to the thirteen police courts).

Juvenile criminal cases are dealt with

by a rota of about sixty county Justices, appointed by the Home Secretary for the purpose, who sit with a stipendiary in one or other of the four Juvenile Courts.

The principal work in petty sessions relates to (1) Licensing-redundancy, transfer of license, alterations to licensed premises, etc.; (2) Offences by parents against the Education Acts—not sending children to school—sending children to school in an unclean condition, etc.; and (3) Offences against the Weights and Measures Acts and the Food and Drugs Acts, etc.

The examination of alleged lunatics is also dealt with in each petty sessional division by a rota of Justices appointed annually as Judicial Authorities under the Lunacy Acts. And for various other special purposes rotas of Justices are appointed by quarter sessions.

The magistrates of the various police courts commit certain prisoners for trial by quarter sessions. There a rota of Justices sit with the salaried chairman who is an experienced judge wielding such considerable authority that the Justices attending on the rota have little or nothing to do in the majority of cases.

But outside all this sessional work a great deal of very important individual work is done in the witnessing of signatures to documents and the taking of declarations for various purposes such as vaccination exemptions, pensions, passports, loss of important documents and pawn-tickets, etc. In a number of these cases matters have to be gone into which are private and personal and vital to the individual making the application. There is a strong feeling that a man or woman ought to be able to seek advice from, or take a confidential document for signature to, a J.P. in whom they have implicit confidence, and the complete assurance that under no circumstances will the revealing of their private affairs be followed by any kind of social or political persecution.

For this reason, and with the ever-increasing number of documents requiring to be dealt with by a J.P., it is imperative that in every locality reasonable facilities be provided so that every person may have easy access to a J.P. holding the same political opinions as they themselves hold and to whom they can freely talk without any fear of unpleasant results.

Yours, etc.

RICHARD MONTFORD,
J.P. for the County of London.

THE LABOUR PARTY

League of Youth

Monthly Bulletin

EDITOR :

W. ARTHUR PEACOCK.

No. 25 (NEW SERIES)

JULY, 1932

How to Make a Speech

HOW often have you wished to stand up at your branch meeting and make some comment upon the matter under discussion? And how often have you remained silent because you were afraid that you could not express your point of view clearly or that you would break down in the middle of your speech? The chances are that you have often felt like this. If such be the case then this admirable new pamphlet issued by the Labour Party and entitled "The Labour Speech and How to Make it" should secure a ready sale among League members.

Speakers' Classes.

Its author is that most able of Socialist propagandists, Fred Montague. For many years Fred Montague was a "Clarion" Vanner and his experience at the street corner and in the public hall is now placed at the disposal of the young men and women in the Party who wish to become propagandists on its behalf.

There are many important points and useful suggestions mentioned in the pamphlet but in these pages I wish just to call attention to a few in the hope that this brief review will lead the reader to purchase the pamphlet.

"When running speakers' classes," writes Fred Montague. "I have often brought shy members to their feet one after the other to tell the story of their daily work. These stories invariably were most interesting. The student forgot 'diffidence or shyness' and spoke with confidence and fluency. That was

because he was saturated with his subject."

Now League of Youth Branches might usefully follow up this idea and devote an evening to five-minute talks about "My Daily Job." Such an evening will be thoroughly worth while. The girl who works behind the shop counter, the clerk sitting in a big office, the motor driver travelling the countryside, the worker at the docks, the builder, the printer, and all other classes and types of workers have interesting things to tell of their trade and their work. Have a talk about it and you will see.

But to return to Mr. Montague's pamphlet. He explains how the voice should be pitched, suggests the way to grip the audience, and makes a number of useful suggestions about notes. To the beginner he says:

Helpful Hints.

Know your subject inside out. Anticipate objections. Speak slowly. Be distinct. Use short sentences and simple words. Find illustrations. Get down to the concrete. Be sincere rather than smart. Speak to the fringe for settling talk to the audience as if it were a live person and as if *you* were. Don't fly to a cigarette while your throat is hot. Don't drink cold water while you are speaking.

There are more hints and plenty of helpful advice in the pages of this pamphlet. The Labour Party issues it for one penny. One dozen copies costs 9d. and 100 copies six shillings. Order a few now and put them to good use.

Socialism and Simple Simon

Members of the League of Youth are always telling me that we are in need of literature that will appeal to the young people who are eligible for membership of the Labour Party League of Youth.

They will be happy to learn that this month three new pamphlets have come from the Labour Party and each of them should suit the needs of the young people who are working in the League Branches.

"A new appeal to the young" is the title of Mr. Herbert Morrison's pamphlet which is published at one penny. Says Mr. Morrison:

"Careerism does not bring happiness; it brings misery. For the careerist there are always greater heights ahead which he wishes to reach, so that he is always disappointed; and the man who is disappointed because he is not higher up is pitiful, for he is denying himself the happiness which comes through the successful achievement of tasks within his power. The Labour Party Ward Secretary who sends the Ward notices out neatly done, cheerfully framed, and dead on time, and who answers letters and gives reports with promptitude and accuracy—he or she is happy because of the sense of a work of service well done, and in the knowledge that the Secretary who does not answer letters may be of little use in planning the Socialist state.

Star Politicians.

But the star politician of no intrinsic capacity who is an Under-Secretary of State and who so much wants to be a Cabinet Minister for the honour of the thing; he is very miserable; and even if he becomes a Cabinet Minister he still will be miserable, for he will then think he ought to be Prime Minister. Real happiness must come from the sense of work well done and the respect of one's fellows which that will bring. Happiness cannot come from an empty desire for place and position."

The other two pamphlets are from the pen of R. B. Suthers. Now you may not know R. B. Suthers but your father and mother, and older Socialist friends of yours will remember him well. He was one of Robert Blatchford's colleagues in the early days of "The Clarion," and the pamphlets that he wrote then did much to make Socialists. They were written in a bright and breezy style that everyone could under-

stand. R. B. Suthers had the happy knack of making difficult things seem easy. One of his books, "Mind Your Own Business," is the best statement of the case for Municipal Socialism that has yet been written.

These two new pamphlets show that Mr. Suthers has not lost his old style. He can still present the Socialist case in simple language. Listen to this.

"You are mistaken," I say. "Socialism is a policeman, not a thief. It proposes to *stop* confiscation, to prevent confiscation. There is a lot of it under your Capitalism."

"What compensation does Capitalism give the factory owner, or the shop-keeper who is ruined by a big amalgamation or combine, or by the multiple shop trusts? None. You say property is sacred

"What compensation does Capitalism give the thousands of wage-earners and salary-earners who are displaced by new machines and rationalisation? As a rule, none.

Who is the Thief?

"You say property is sacred. Have not these people a property right in their freedom to earn a living? Capitalism steals that freedom. It steals their property. You have no right to talk about the sacredness of property.

"What compensation does the landlord pay to the people who by their ability have built up a prosperous business and kept the landlord's buildings in repair? At the end of the lease he doubles or trebles the rent. He confiscates part of the wealth made by other people. Is that the reward of ability, or theft?"

Just here the first anti-Socialist returns and observes with a grin: "What! Still cackling?" The second anti-Socialist says drily, "You're right. He is. But goose is the wrong word. You say he is a simpleton. I don't."

"Your friend thinks most Socialists are scoundrels," I say, including myself. He thinks Socialists want to get pies without paying pennies. You think I am a simpleton for expecting pies under Socialism, for, you say, the brainy people would have no incentive to make pies. So there would not be as many pies as to-day.

"Thus this argument kills your argument. If there were fewer pies the envious Socialists could not gorge.

(Continued on page 4.)

Londoners, Please Note

THE London Leagues are making a big effort to increase their membership. The achievements of the five months membership campaign are not yet known but the records up to May show that encouraging increases have been gained by many branches. Over six hundred new members up to May 28 is good news. Let us trust that the 1,000 mark will be reached by the time the campaign closes.

But the job does not end with the enrolment of the six hundred odd new members. It really only begins then. The task is to interest them in the work of the Party, to help them to understand its policy and its outlook, to aid them in their effort to learn how it has sprung into being.

We cannot hope to maintain our new members unless we encourage them to enter into our activities, unless we help them in their wish to become good Socialist workers. Among them, the educational work of the League has specially to be conducted.

Pamphlet to Buy.

In this connection it is good to learn that the London Advisory Committee is organising its debating team again. The Special Selection debate is to take place at the offices of the London Labour Party on July 27th at eight o'clock when Miss Doris Saunders, of the Southgate League is to move: "That the point of view expressed in G. D. H. Cole's pamphlet, 'Some Essentials of Socialist Propaganda,' is worthy of the support of the Labour movement. Mr. P. Douglas is to oppose the motion and D. H. Daines is to preside.

All League members are invited to attend the debate and to participate in the discussion, but branch officers are asked to see that their best speakers and debaters are persuaded to attend.

The pamphlet which is to form the basis of discussion is published by the Fabian Society, 11, Dartmouth Street, S.W.1., from whom it can be obtained at 2d. per copy, or 2½d. post free.

This pamphlet has been specially chosen because it is inexpensive and can be bought by most of our members. It should give everybody an opportunity to

prepare for the debate and as its contents provide provocative subject matter, it should prove to be an exceedingly instructive and interesting debate.

Now another very good thing that the London Advisory Committee has decided to do is to co-ordinate the present educational activities of the London branches. Secretaries are being asked to intimate to the Committee by July 23rd,

1. Educational activities engaged in during the past year, including lectures, debates and study circles.

2. Similar activities contemplated for the coming autumn.

Two good pamphlets likely to help study circles have lately been issued by the Trades Union Congress. One deals with the organisation of industry and the other with tariffs. Both are available from the T.U.C. Publication Dept., Transport House South, Smith Square, S.W.1.

Camp at Abridge.

One other point for London members. It has been decided to organise the usual August week camp to commence on Saturday, July 30, and to conclude on August 7. The Camp Secretary is Paul Williams, 82, Redcliffe Gardens, S.W.10, and those wishing to attend the camp should write him before July 18th. It is anticipated that the charges will be (excluding fares) the following:

Cost for the first week-end	5s. 6d.
Second week-end	3s. 6d.
Full week-end	25s. od.

Further details will be sent out to branches as soon as negotiations about the camp site are carried through. Meanwhile, members wishing to attend are urged to communicate with Mr. Paul Williams.

In my article in a recent issue of "The New Clarion," I mentioned that Mr. Stan Hancock, of 69, Forest Drive East, Leytonstone, E.11, the Secretary of the Clarion Fellowship, had literature for distribution and that parcels would be sent gratuitously to branches sending for same. Several enquiries have been received and several parcels dispatched. More are available and those branches interested should write Mr. Hancock.

REMINDER.

Don't forget that the Editor of the Bulletin likes to hear about the activities of your League. Send him in reports of the meetings you are holding, the schemes you have in hand. Let the reports be written clearly and briefly. And let them reach the Labour Party Office not later than the 4th Monday in the month.

The Editor is always happy to receive contributions suitable for publication in the Bulletin and promises that all MSS. sent to him will receive careful consideration.

An article about the work of the League of Youth appears in each issue of "The New Clarion," published on Thursdays, price 2d. "The New Clarion" is obtainable at all news-agents and bookstalls. This journal also gives space to the activities of the National Workers' Sports Association, an organisation to which the League is attached and upon the Committee of which our National Chairman sits.

SOCIALISM AND SIMPLE SIMON.

(Continued from page 2.)

"One of you says the people are not honest and good enough for Socialism. The other says that the Capitalism in which we all live is one in which only honest people thrive.

"Thus the first argument kills the second argument. I wonder if one of you is a scoundrel.

This extract is from "Simple Simon, the Socialist Scoundrel." Published by the Labour Party. Price 2d., 1/6 for a dozen copies and 10/- per 100. Get hold of some NOW. Pass them among your anti-Socialist friends. Have them on sale at your meetings.

And at the same time have some copies of "Mr. Suthers' other new pamphlet, "Socialism or Smash."

There is need for plenty of propaganda during the coming months. As Mr. Morrison says, "Make sure of your facts. Weigh the arguments and courageously get where reason and wise understanding take you "



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By R. B. Suthers

SOCIALISM OR SMASH

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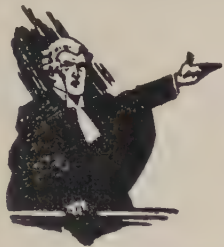
**HOW TO MAKE A LABOUR
SPEECH.** By Fred Montague

APPEAL TO THE YOUNG

By Herbert Morrison

NOTICE.

"The League of Youth Monthly Bulletin" is issued by the Press and Publicity Department of the Labour Party. By arrangement with the "Labour Organiser" it is first published in the pages of that journal, from which it is reprinted for wider circulation.



LAW AND PRACTICE



(Under this heading are found brief and chatty explanations of points of commoner interest concerning the Law and Practice of Elections, etc. Readers are invited to suggest points for notice herein, but are reminded that suggestions made may not necessarily be dealt with in the next issue.—Ed.)

A number of minor differences in practice exist concerning the procedure for nomination in different classes of elections. During almost every election period enquiries reach us which show that the differences in procedure are sometimes not understood. We know of several occasions on which nominations have been ruled out of order, owing to a lack of knowledge of the appropriate procedure. On two occasions within our cognisance, sitting members have actually lost their seats owing to their nomination papers or their form of delivery of same not complying with the necessary rules. It may therefore be helpful to set out in this article a brief outline of the procedure regarding nominations in several classes of elections. Our readers will readily make comparisons, and we hope take notice of the differences.

Parliamentary Elections.

These elections are the only elections where the procedure at nominations is entirely governed by the Ballot Act, 1872.

The form of nomination is prescribed by the Ballot Act.

The prescribed form provides no place for date, either for dating the subscriptions or for inserting the date of the elections. If any place for dates is provided on a nomination form used, any inaccuracy in the use of same does not, in our opinion, affect the validity of the nomination, though care should, of course, be taken.

The nomination paper requires the surname, other names, abode, and

"rank, profession or occupation" of the person nominated.

The term "rank, profession or occupation" is essentially the same as the word "description," and the latter word is used on the nomination papers in all local government elections. Rule VI. of the Ballot Act requires that each candidate shall be described in such manner as in the opinion of the returning officer is calculated to sufficiently identify such candidate.

No objection to a nomination paper on the ground of the description of a candidate being insufficient, or not in compliance with rule, is valid, unless such objection is made by the returning officer or by "some other person" at or immediately after the delivery of the nomination paper.

Each nomination paper must be signed by eight assentors who are registered electors in the Division, and the current address of each nominator must be given on the nomination form.

It is unnecessary to give the registered number of either proposers, seconders, or assentors, though these are frequently pencilled on the form for convenience of tracing.

The signatures of proposers, seconders, or assentors need not be precisely as these persons are described on the register. A person should sign his ordinary signature, but where this differs from the register by the omission or addition of a second christian name, or in any other material manner, those responsible for the paper must be prepared with evidence that the person who signs is actually the person registered.

Note that on no account should nomination papers in any election be signed by the proposers or seconders without the candidate's name being filled in, or signed by the assentors before the proposers have signed.

The elector may sign as many nomination papers as there are vacancies

to be filled. This in practice means that an elector can only sign one nomination paper as proposer or assentor in a single-membered constituency, and only two nomination papers in a "double-barrelled" constituency.

The returning officer will fix what is technically known as the day of election, but which is really the day of nomination, and he will announce a specific period of two hours between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. for the receipt of nominations. He will sit for one hour afterwards for purposes presently mentioned.

Nomination papers must be delivered within the first named two hours. Candidates before now have been misled by the Ballot Act rules which do not say who is to hand in the nomination papers. It is however, laid down in Section 1 of the Act that the nomination papers must be delivered to the returning officer by the candidate himself, or his proposer or seconder. Note the agent cannot act.

At the nomination proceedings one other person selected by the candidate may attend in addition to the candidate and his proposer or seconder. Assentors have no status.

During the two hours for nominations, the necessary deposit of £150 must be paid to the returning officer. This must be paid by the candidate or "someone on his behalf."

Objections to any nomination paper may be made during the time of nomination or within the period of one hour afterwards. In practice objections are limited during the period of nomination to the small number of persons entitled to be present, but it is submitted that during the period of one hour after nominations any elector can submit an objection.

The returning officer decides on the validity of objections to nomination papers. If disallowing the objection the decision is final—if allowing the objection the decision may be challenged on petition.

Municipal Elections.

The procedure at nominations is governed by the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882.

The prescribed form of nomination paper requires a heading giving particulars of the election, of the ward for which it is held, and the date on which the election is to be held. The nomination paper is also dated at the foot.

The form requires the surnames, other names, abode and description of the candidate.

The form must be signed by two electors as proposer and seconder respectively, and by eight electors as assentors. The hints given above regarding subscription by a person's usual signature apply to these nomination papers, and to all other nomination papers.

The addresses of the nominators and assentors are unnecessary, but in each case the number on the register must be given, together with the ward or polling district, if any, having a distinct numbering. A strict observance of this point is necessary.

As in a Parliamentary election the fact that a form may be signed by more than eight assentors does not vitiate the nomination.

No elector may subscribe to more nomination papers than there are vacancies to be filled, and he should not sign more than one paper for any one candidate.

Nomination papers require to be delivered by the candidate or his proposer or seconder seven days at least before the day of election . . . They must not be posted. If delivery is left till the last day they must be delivered before 5 p.m.

In the case of a Municipal Borough, the Town Clerk's office is the place of delivery. In a County Council election, except where the election is in a Borough, the returning officer is required to fix some place in substitution for the Town Clerk's office.

The Town Clerk (or the Returning Officer at a County Council Election) is required to send notice of any nomination to each candidate. This notice should be sent as soon after the close of nominations as possible.

On the day after the last day for the receipt of nomination papers a time is set aside between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. for the purpose of deciding on the validity of every objection made in writing to a nomination paper.

Objections may be lodged by any candidate or his representative during the time appointed, but it would appear that though the proceedings may last from 2 to 4 p.m. they may be terminated earlier if the business of hearing objections has been completed.

Only candidates and one representative each may attend at the proceedings just mentioned.

Decisions regarding the validity of nomination papers take the same course as in a Parliamentary election.

(To be continued).



QUESTIONS ANSWERED HERE

Fixed or Summoned Party Meetings.

Question. We should be glad to know your opinion regarding the summonses for our Party meetings. We have tried different methods at different times. At one time we just announced at one meeting when the next would be held, and that was not satisfactory; then we fixed a regular night in the month, but we had no better attendance; at one time our Secretary used to distribute notices when he met the delegates, or leave them at their houses, and now we are working on dates printed on our membership card, and these dates get altered sometimes. What do you think is the best thing to do?

Answer. We should condemn outright all the methods which our correspondent describes if they were the sole method of announcement. The habit of fixing the date of one meeting at the last meeting, and leaving it at that, is hopelessly wrong, unless in the case of a sub-committee of two or three persons, and where the meeting takes place in a few days' time. It should never be adopted by a Local Party.

The idea of holding Party meetings monthly on a fixed night in the month has a good deal to commend it, and so has the idea of printing these dates on Party cards, but to leave it at that is to court poor attendances; and in any case the occurrence of holidays, and other events interfering with fixed dates is bound to cause confusion some time or another during the year. We do not believe in hand-delivered circulars convening meetings. This procedure may save a few coppers, but not in shoe leather, and all too often a circular so delivered is immediately thrown away or forgotten.

The only satisfactory way of summoning Party meetings is through the post, and the expense incurred is justified by results. A printed post card is

often used and goes through the post at a halfpenny. We prefer the printed circular in an envelope, which also goes for a halfpenny. It is curious what trifles impress matters on peoples' minds, and the mere act of opening an envelope is sometimes effective in this direction. Where even this method fails we advise emphasis to be still further obtained by using a distinctive-coloured envelope, and a distinctive circular.

The Morality of Draws and Sweepstakes.

Question. I consider that sweepstakes, draws and such like are inimical to the welfare of our Party. I should like to hear what the "Labour Organiser" thinks of the matter. In my opinion it is a disgrace to see the columns of the "Daily Herald" giving the winning numbers and so forth. If Labour voters would subscribe their money in a proper manner there would be no need for this sort of thing. Very often these draws only take place to encourage the poor to get rich quick. Somebody has to provide the prizes and it is generally the poor fools who cannot afford to do so. I should like to see the "Labour Organiser" condemn this thing outright.

Answer. We do not object to give publicity to the lofty morals of our correspondent. But alas, we are all human, and we all err. It is shameful to do as the bookies do, but has not the Vicar of Stiffkey himself reminded us that even Christ passed much of His time consorting with bad characters. In Heaven and under Socialism, we believe there would be neither draws nor sweepstakes: not even the latest odds in the newspapers (this is not written to discourage converts). But we are living under neither system to-day, and the organisation of the masses for the purpose of securing their own advantage

very often depends upon taking advantage of the character of the mass itself. The man who understands them best—that is the man who understands human nature best—succeeds: the other just doesn't.

What is wrong about draws and sweepstakes? The worst disadvantage "personally," is the fellow who wants to touch you for a prize, or the lady who wants to touch you for a ticket. We heartily agree that both these people are unmoral (we did not say immoral).

But as we understand our correspondent aright, his objection is that draws and sweepstakes, and, we suppose, "Daily Herald" competitions, base their appeal on the cupidity of human nature, and this is the wrong chord to touch. We should agree if this was the only chord played, for we object to a one-stringed fiddle; we should equally object to playing solely on the idealistic chord our friend evidently thinks is proper.

But we are not alone in sin. The success of Trades Unionism has certainly not been solely due to its idealism; and certainly religion has often pandered to the desire to seek advantage—personal advantages at that.

Nor is it well to assume that in taking a specific action any person is guided by a single impulse—good or bad. We are far too complex for that. Even the martyr at the stake was sometimes guilty of blind obstinacy, ever-weaning pride, supreme conceit, or a desire to get one over his tormentors in the next world. Why, then, accuse our promoters of sweepstakes and draws of the offence of pandering to wickedness or charge the purchaser of tickets of being prompted by cupidity? Quite probably there is a complexity of motives. Is it cupidity or paternal instinct that would prompt the editor to win a small cash prize that would send another chick to school? And if one wins a doll in a raffle how much worse is that than tiring out all one's opponents to win it in a race?

Further, what chords do other workers in our vineyard appeal to? The speaker uses his platform arts, his platitudes and his flattery to appeal to instincts quite as base as one's desire to win a prize. The pulpit plays on fear (or cowardice), Phariseism, etc., and do not our other doings—our "platform" at public meetings; our photos of the candidate; our method of opening bazaars, etc., etc.; foster a spirit of snobbery and perhaps of conceit? After all, we are in a world of curious and

complex people, and if we would influence them to our way we must sometimes play at being common people.

We will not leave our correspondent here, but would say quite frankly that we prefer Local Parties to regard membership as the main and future source for income. But we say this not on high moral grounds, but for practical considerations which have been reiterated again and again in the "Labour Organiser."

Basis of Representation on Local Party.

Question. I want you to help us on a ticklish question. When our Divisional Party was formed, we were advised on a basis of representation. Our basis has been to give Trades Union Branches one delegate for every hundred members and our Local Parties have three delegates for every Local Party, one being the Secretary. Since the time our rules were framed we have increased the number of Local Committees to such an extent that the Local Parties have it all their own way. For a long time our Trades Union delegates have been lacking in interest, and I think this is because they are snowed under at our meetings. We have four thousand Trade Unionists affiliated, and only 43 Trades Union delegates, though only about a dozen ever attend. We have got 21 local committees, and what with Women Sections I think there are about 75 Party delegates. We have about eight hundred individual members. These get seventy-five delegates, and the four thousand Trades Unionists get forty-five—is this right?

Answer. We have had some experience of framing suitable rules for Local and Divisional Labour Parties. The considerations which generally weigh with us are to provide a basis which is equitable as between the various interests, and to provide the Party immediately with an effective and workable General Committee. This must be satisfactory both numerically, and from the point of view of balance, and one cannot lose sight of the question of future development.

It is quite probable that the basis our correspondent's Party works upon was satisfactory at the time it was framed, but we believe that the rules regarding representation require occasional revision in most Parties, because circumstances change. A strictly uniform basis of representation fixed upon membership only would not be equitable in any Party because there must be a

recognition of the fact that the individual member is one hundred per cent. political, whereas the affiliated member, particularly where only a twopenny affiliation fee is in existence, contributes less both in cash and interest.

The whole situation is complicated by the fact that in most cases development is not complete. If it were we should say that the same basis of representation per member would be suitable for individual and affiliated members, provided the especial interest of individual membership and the geographical interests were recognised by the addition of the Local Secretaries *ex officio*. But this is not the case.

To confine ourselves, therefore, to our friend's query, we certainly think a revision is desirable. We suggest at least two delegates for the first one hundred members of affiliated organisations. We prefer giving one delegate to every fifty members; and though this might mean eighty or ninety delegates our correspondent's own letter shows that many do not attend, and it is obviously improper that such a disparity of representation should exist as his query indicates. Local Parties should never lose sight of the fact that even if affiliation fees are small, the value of an interested Trades Unionism cannot be over-stated. The Party is lucky indeed whose T.U. delegates can be interested in adequate numbers in the affairs of the Party.

Adjournment of Selection Meeting.

Question. I should be glad to know your view as to the powers of a selection meeting. Our Chairman rules that when a selection meeting is called, if the proper notice has been given according to Labour Party rules, a motion for adjournment is out of order, and cannot be entertained. Now at our coming selection meeting there are two nominations, but our Branch would have liked to make a nomination, but we cannot do so in the time allowed. Most of the delegates to the selection meeting would agree that our man is the best of the three, but we are tied down to the rule, and it looks as if the Division will be let down, and have to select a very much inferior candidate. Your views will oblige.

Answer. We always hesitate in giving advice contrary to that expressed by others, unless we are sure that all the facts have been disclosed to us. We are aware, however, that there is considerable ambiguity in some quarters concerning the procedure at a selection

meeting, and so we will venture our opinion.

Assuming the Chairman is correctly reported, his ruling is a bit too rigid. At many selection meetings we have found someone or other anxious to have the proceedings postponed. In most cases this desire is ill-founded, and there is rarely any valid reason for postponement. At the same time we do not think it is within the power of a Chairman to refuse to accept a motion to adjourn. The delegates may usually be trusted to exercise proper discrimination when voting on a question of this kind, and it must be admitted outright that there is sometimes good reason for an adjournment.

An adjournment is sometimes asked for for the purpose of admitting the nomination of another candidate. In most cases we should be disposed to object. It can be assumed that Party rules have given all sections adequate time for nomination, and it is not fair to accord a privilege to any laggard body if others have taken advantage of their opportunity to nominate. The very act of adjournment may, in fact, become tantamount to a rejection of the claims of the nominees already in.

At the same time circumstances arise which prevent a valid nomination being sent in to the specified time. An extension of time for nomination can be granted, but in our view any Party or Branch desiring this course should send in an application to the Executive in good time. The matter should not be left to a motion for adjournment at a

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meeting called specially for the purpose of selection.

It must always be remembered that a selection meeting is not bound to select—no matter who nominates. Confusion on this point has led to some unfortunate situations. The rule lays it down that the selection meeting is for the purpose of deciding which nomination, if any, is to be submitted to the National E.C. for endorsement. Indeed it would be more profitable sometimes if the power of rejection was more often exercised.

Alien's Wife on Borough Council.

Question. We are in a bit of a quandary about one of our members who is on the Town Council. This lady, who was a widow, has recently married a foreigner, and we are told that this disqualifies her for the Council. Is this so, and can she be nominated again for the elections in November?

Answer. We would refer our correspondent to an answer on a similar question given in the "Labour Organiser" in September, 1931. The facts of the present case are somewhat different, but the law concerning it remains the same. An Englishwoman who marries a foreigner loses her nationality — is there not a Bill on this question now before Parliament?—and she assumes the nationality of her husband. In other words she too becomes an alien.

But the question of this lady's membership of the Borough Council is another matter, and we presume from our correspondent's letter that there is no question of the lady going abroad or losing interest in Municipal work. In our opinion she is not disqualified by the mere fact that she has become an alien. This position is, however, purely due to an oversight on the part of our legislators. Membership of Parliament or of an Urban or Rural District Council is impossible to an alien, because of certain disqualifying statutes, but there was no disqualifying clause in the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, for the simple reason that membership of the Council was based on qualification as an elector, and no one could be qualified as an elector who was an alien. One may now become qualified to sit on the Borough Council by other means than registration as a voter, and Parliament in making these concessions omitted to enact the same disqualification as obtains for the other bodies mentioned.

Regarding qualification to be elected in November next, the qualification to

be relied upon would have to be residence in the Borough for the preceding 12 months, or the ownership of property.

A CHANCE FOR LOCAL PARTIES.

An unemployed reader, who, in his spare time, has given a great deal of service to his Local Party, and expended much money on equipment for the purpose of carrying on Party work, now finds himself compelled to offer his office equipment for sale. We append a list of the articles our friend has for disposal, and shall be glad to place any reader in touch with the vendor on receipt of a post card. The purchase price of the lot was about £50. The whole of the articles are new and the books are latest editions. Offers are invited.

1. Speaker's portable platform, weight 18lbs., folds to 22 by 27. Takes posters up to 21 by 26. Painted red and white.
2. Three red collecting boxes. Cash won't come out too easily, save by proper way.
3. Small bell; red.
4. Electric sign, "Labour Party," in red, on two sides, for use at open-air meetings for November elections.
5. Revolving tray stand, 4 trays, for correspondence, clamps to desk.
6. Mahogany case of 6 drawers, 27in. by 15in. by 12in. overall, for envelopes, foolscap, etc.
7. Small do., 3 drawers for sundries.
8. Card index case, oak, and 1,000 new cards and set plain index cards.
9. 2-ply cases, each holding 5 foolscap "East Light" files, complete with 10 files.
10. Five card files, 18in by 15in., containing sample posters of all sorts.
11. Lion addressograph, with extras.
12. Ellam's foolscap diaphragm duplicator.
13. 11lb. spring balance for parcels.
14. Date stamp, metal letters.
15. Number stamp, 6 figure, fully automatic.
16. Hotchkiss staples.
17. File perforator with scale.
18. Quantity sundries, note books, clips, paper, envelopes, nibs, bands, pins, etc., odd files, tracing and squared paper, etc. Rulers. Squares.
19. Set of election books.
20. Set of Industrial and T.U. Law Books.
21. Quantities of L.P. and T.U. leaflets, hand and year books, reports, etc., election notes, speakers' notes, etc.

THE I.L.P. AND THE LABOUR PARTY.

A Caustic Criticism.

In view of the present relationship between the I.L.P. and the Labour Party we make no apology for reproducing a poignant indictment of the I.L.P. attitude written to the "New Leader" itself some months ago by Mr. Louis Anderson Fenn, M.Sc., Labour Candidate for the Handsworth Division of Birmingham. We regret that space alone compels us to condense the article.

"The question whether the I.L.P. ought to disaffiliate from the Labour Party is essentially the same as the question whether individual Socialists who are dissatisfied with the policy and leadership of that Party ought to leave it. I have been in that position for a long time; nevertheless, I propose to remain not only a member of the Party but one of its prospective candidates.

* * * *

I cannot help feeling that the I.L.P. has itself during the last ten years provoked psychological reactions which have prevented the adoption of its often quite sound ideas. It is quite possible to talk sense about Labour politics without appearing to emulate the Pharisee in the parable, and to thank God one is "not as this Labour man."

I do not believe that active members of the I.L.P. realise the sort of exasperation which their rather "superior" attitude provokes among good Socialists who are members of the Labour Party. It is not the economic doctrines of the I.L.P. to which a Labour Conference objects so much as the feeling that those ideas are put forward by a sort of rival show which claims to have the peculiar custodianship of the ark of the covenant of Socialism.

It is equally natural and human that an organisation which looks back to the memory of Keir Hardie and the earlier Snowden should preserve a strong corporate feeling; nevertheless, I am sure that if the I.L.P. were as great as the spirit of its own pioneers, it would be much less interested in itself and much more interested in making Socialism prevail, whoever got the credit.

Children sometimes perform in the weeks prior to Christmas the very attractive ceremonial of "calling up the chimney"; its charm consists in this: it permits the indulgence of anticipations untrammelled by practical

probabilities. I append a number of quite comparable wishes with regard to the I.L.P. and the Labour Party:

I wish the I.L.P. would stop trying to be a political party and concentrate on some vitally important planning for the Labour Movement. I wish its members would cease to expend idealism and self-sacrifice on maintaining an expensive political organisation, and lay themselves out to officer the local Labour Parties and the Trade Union Branches, as they quite easily could. I wish its annual and divisional conferences would cease to be happy hunting grounds for anti-Socialist journalists, and become semi-private gatherings of Socialists for the real discussion of common problems.

I wish that some of the money now spent in a costly and rather ineffective effort to duplicate the electoral organisation of the Labour Party could be diverted to financing the "New Leader," which is by a long way the best piece of work the I.L.P. has on hand; and I wish the I.L.P. would forget about itself and think about Socialism for a change.

I do not suppose that any of these wishes will be fulfilled. Nevertheless, I am sure their fulfilment would prove to be the way to effective power, and I suspect that it would be the way to actual survival as a political force."

LEAGUE OF YOUTH BULLETIN.

Following the announcement which appeared in these columns a month or two ago, we beg to advise our readers that arrangements have now been completed for the printing of the League of Youth Bulletin to be discontinued as a supplement to the "Labour Organiser."

Our August issue will contain the last issue of the Bulletin in its present form. Commencing with September the "Labour Organiser" will contain new features in the vacated space. In other words four additional pages will be devoted to organisational matter.

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Why do people advertise? It is for the plain and simple reason that they want to trade. But that is not the whole story. Readers may feel no special obligation because of this one-sided desire but if they will consider the matter further, they will appreciate that advertisers are a source of income to the paper—in short, without the advertisers, you could not have your "Labour Organiser."

Also worth considering is the fact that if advertisers do not do the trade with readers that they ask for, they cannot afford to advertise. Therefore, our readers *must* trade with advertisers if they desire to get their paper.

In Labour ranks we have heard from time to time a lot about loyalty, or rather the lack of it. Is there a lack of loyalty by readers towards advertisers? We hope not, but we point the moral just the same. For your printing, for your holidays, for anything else—go to our advertisers. A spot of loyalty won't hurt you—and we guarantee satisfaction!

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